



# Citizenship in the Nation



## Merit Badge Worksheet for the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural National Historic Site

This worksheet will help you complete the merit badge requirements and prepare for your visit to the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site (TR Site). You will still need to read the merit badge pamphlet.

The work space provided for each requirement should be used by the Scout to make notes for discussing the item with his counselor. Each Scout must do each requirement.

Scout's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Counselor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Counselor's Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

**You must submit completed worksheet two weeks prior to your museum visit.**

Contact: Education Director, Mark Lozo: [mark\\_lozo@partner.nps.gov](mailto:mark_lozo@partner.nps.gov), 716.884.0095

**In accord with BSA policy, all scouts must be supervised by an adult during their visit.**

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**1. Fill out these sections, and be prepared to discuss this requirement during your visit to the TR Inaugural Site for Merit Badge Day.**

Define citizenship. What does it mean to be a good citizen of this country?


How can you be a good citizen to your community and nation?


Discuss the rights, duties, and obligations of a responsible and active American citizen.

Rights:



Duties:


Obligations:


2. Prepare for your visit to the TR Site. This historic house museum is listed as a National Historic Landmark on the National Register of Historic Places. It is also considered a federal facility by the National Parks Service. Collect details about the museum and describe what you expect to learn or what you find interesting about its history:



3. Watch the national evening news five days in a row OR read the front page of a major daily newspaper five days in a row. Select a topic that is currently in the news. Pick a current world event based on ONE of the following categories: immigration, labor reform, conservation/environmentalism, urban poverty, racial or social inequality, role of the United States in foreign affairs.

Discuss one national issue you learned about:


Explain how this issue affects you and your family:



4. Research and describe each of the following documents. How do you feel life in the United States might be different without each one?

a. Declaration of Independence


b. Preamble to the Constitution


c. The Constitution


d. Bill of Rights

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10


e. Amendments to the Constitution

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27.	

5. List the six functions of government as noted in the preamble to the Constitution.

Function	Discuss how these functions affect your family and local community.




6. Review the excerpt of TR's speech about citizenship provided by your counselor. See:

<http://www.nps.gov/thri/historyculture/upload/Duties-of-American-Citizenship-edit.pdf>

**Fill out these sections, and be prepared to discuss this requirement during your visit to the TR Inaugural Site for Merit Badge Day.**

List biographical information about President Theodore Roosevelt:


Explain the importance of the speech at the time it was given, and tell how it applies to American citizens today.

Importance at the time:


How it applies today:



Choose a sentence or two from the speech that has significant meaning to you, and explain why.


7. Name the three branches of our federal government and explain to your counselor their functions. Explain how citizens are involved in each branch. For each branch of government, explain the importance of the system of checks and balances.

a.Branch:

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Function:

[illegible]

Citizen Involvement:

[illegible]

### Importance of Checks & Balances:


b.Branch:	
Function:	
Citizen Involvement:	
Importance of Checks & Balances:	
c.Branch:	
Function:	

Citizen Involvement:	
Importance of Checks & Balances:	

8. Name your two United States Senators and the member of Congress from your congressional district.

**Fill out these sections, and be prepared to discuss this requirement during your visit to the TR Inaugural Site for Merit Badge Day.**

Senator:

Senator:

Member of Congress:


- ☐ Write a letter about a national issue and send it to one of these elected officials, sharing your view with him or her.
- ☐ Show your letter and any response you receive to your counselor.

**Requirement resources can be found here:**

[http://www.meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/Citizenship\\_in\\_the\\_Nation#Requirement\\_resources](http://www.meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/Citizenship_in_the_Nation#Requirement_resources)

## **Helpful Resources:**

### **Scouting Literature**

*American Business, American Cultures, American Heritage, Citizenship in the Community, Citizenship in the World, and Lawmerit badge* pamphlets

### **Books**

- Bjornlund, Lydia. *The U.S. Constitution: Blueprint for Democracy*. Lucent Books Inc., 1999.
- Faber, Doris and Harold Faber. *We the People: The Story of the United States Constitution Since 1787*. Charles Scribner's Sons, 1987.
- Feinberg, Barbara Silberdick. *The Articles of Confederation: The First Constitution of the United States*. Twenty-First Century Books, 2002.
- Freedman, Russell. *Give Me Liberty! The Story of the Declaration of Independence*. Holiday House, 2000.
- Jaffe, Steven H. *Who Were the Founding Fathers? Two Hundred Years of Reinventing American History*. Henry Holt and Co., 1996.
- Kassinger, Ruth. *U.S. Census: A Mirror of America*. Raintree Steck-Vaughn Publishers, 2000.
- Krull, Kathleen. *A Kid's Guide to America's Bill of Rights: Curfews, Censorship, and the 100-Pound Giant*. William Morrow & Co., 1999.
- Mackintosh, Barry. *The National Park Service*. Chelsea House Publishers, 1988.
- Torricelli, Robert, and Andrew Carroll, eds. *In Our Own Words: Extraordinary Speeches of the American Century*. Kodansha International, 1999.
- Weber, Michael. *The Young Republic*. Raintree Steck-Vaughn Publishers, 2000.
- Wilson, Richard Guy, ed. *A Guide to Popular U.S. Landmarks as Listed in the National Registry of Historic Places*. Franklin Watts Inc., 2003.
- Zeinert, Karen. *Free Speech: From Newspapers to Music Lyrics*. Enslow Publishers, 1995.

### **Organizations and Web Sites**

#### **American Civil Liberties Union**

125 Broad St., 18th Floor  
New York, NY 10004  
Telephone: 212-549-2549  
Web site: <http://www.aclu.org>

#### **Democratic National Committee**

430 South Capitol St. SE  
Washington, DC 20003  
Telephone: 202-863-8000  
Web site: <http://www.democrats.org>

#### **FirstGov**

Web site: <http://www.firstgov.gov>

#### **GovSpot**

Web site: <http://www.govspot.com>

#### **League of Women Voters**

1730 M St. NW, Suite 1000  
Washington, DC 20036-4508  
Telephone: 202-429-1965  
Web site: <http://www.lwv.org>

**National Constitution Center**

525 Arch St.  
Independence Mall  
Philadelphia, PA 19106  
Toll-free telephone: 866-917-1787  
Web site: <http://www.constitutioncenter.org>

**National Park Service**

1849 C St. NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
Telephone: 202-208-6843  
Web site: <http://www.nps.gov>

**Republican National Committee**

310 First St. SE  
Washington, DC 20003  
Telephone: 202-863-8500  
Web site: <http://www.rnc.org>

**The U. S. Constitution Online**

Web site: <http://www.usconstitution.net>

**Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural National Historic Site:**

641 Delaware Ave.  
Buffalo, NY 14202  
Telephone: 716.884.0095  
Web site: <http://www.trsite.org/>

**U.S. Census Bureau**

4700 Silver Hill Road  
Washington, DC 20233-0001  
Telephone: 301-763-1305  
Web site: <http://www.census.gov>

**U.S. House of Representatives**

Telephone: 202-224-3121  
Web site: <http://www.house.gov>

**U.S. Government Printing Office**

Mail Stop: SDE  
732 N. Capitol St. NW  
Washington, DC 20401  
Toll-free telephone: 888-293-6498  
Web site: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov>

**U.S. Senate**

Telephone: 202-225-6827  
Web site: <http://www.senate.gov>

**U.S. Supreme Court**

Telephone: 202-479-3211  
Web site: <http://www.supremecourtus.gov>

**The White House**

1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20500  
Telephone: 202-456-1414  
Web site: <http://www.whitehouse.gov>